

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8248

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalty enhancements for committing certain offenses while in disguise, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 2024

Mr. BURCHETT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalty enhancements for committing certain offenses while in disguise, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Unmasking Antifa Act
5 of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. INTERFERENCE WITH PROTECTED RIGHTS WHILE**
7 **IN DISGUISE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 13 of title 18, United
9 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 250 the
10 following:

1 **“§ 251. Interference with protected rights while in**
2 **disguise**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever, whether or not acting
4 under color of law, while in disguise, including while wear-
5 ing a mask, injures, oppresses, threatens, or intimidates
6 any person in any State, Territory, Commonwealth, Pos-
7 session, or District in the free exercise or enjoyment of
8 any right or privilege secured to him by the Constitution
9 or laws of the United States, or because of his having so
10 exercised the same, shall be fined under this title, impris-
11 oned not more than 15 years, or both.

12 “(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
13 tion shall be construed so as to deter any law enforcement
14 officer from lawfully carrying out the duties of his office;
15 and no law enforcement officer shall be considered to be
16 in violation of this section for lawfully carrying out the
17 duties of his office or lawfully enforcing ordinances and
18 laws of the United States, the District of Columbia, any
19 of the several States, or any political subdivision of a
20 State. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term
21 ‘law enforcement officer’ means any officer of the United
22 States, the District of Columbia, a State, or political sub-
23 division of a State, who is empowered by law to conduct
24 investigations of, or make arrests because of, offenses
25 against the United States, the District of Columbia, a
26 State, or a political subdivision of a State.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
2 for chapter 13 of title 18, United States Code, is amended
3 by inserting after the item related to section 250 the fol-
4 lowing:

“251. Interference with protected rights while in disguise.”.

5 **SEC. 3. DESTROYING BUILDINGS OR PROPERTY WITHIN**
6 **SPECIAL MARITIME AND TERRITORIAL JU-**
7 **RISDICTION WHILE IN DISGUISE.**

8 Section 1363 of title 18, United States Code, is
9 amended by adding at the end the following: “Whoever,
10 during the commission of an offense under this section,
11 wears a disguise, including a mask, shall, in addition to
12 any term of imprisonment otherwise imposed under this
13 section, be imprisoned for 2 years.”.

○